

XVI.—On a new Species of Tree-Partridge from the Mountains of the Malay Peninsula. By HERBERT C. ROBINSON, M.B.O.U., Curator of the Selangor State Museum. *With Notes by W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT.*

(Plate IV.)

THIS very distinct and interesting species of Tree-Partridge, of which a brief diagnosis has already been published in the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' is not an unexpected addition to the Peninsular fauna. It differs from all described members of the genus, except *Arboricola rubrirostris* of Sumatra, in having the crown of the head black, but from that species it is readily distinguished by the colour of the bill and by many striking differences in the plumage. Its nearest ally is undoubtedly *A. atrigularis*, which ranges from Assam southwards to Upper Burma. The type-specimen has been deposited in the National Collection. A male and female were obtained by my native collectors, who also observed, but did not secure, *Caloperdix oculea* and the recently described *Rheinhardtius ocellatus nigrescens* Rothsch., as well as a Silver-Pheasant, probably undescribed, which I myself have met with in the same district.

The new species may be fully described as follows :—

ARBORICOLA CAMPBELLI. (Plate IV.)

*Arboricola campbelli* Robinson, Bull. B. O. C. xv. p. 28 (1904).

*Adult male.* Top of the head, nape, lores, and periocular region jet-black; a broad white supra-loral stripe ending immediately above the eye, the feathers with black shaft-stripes; a white stripe from the base of the lower mandible, broadening posteriorly until it reaches the ear-coverts, which are greyish black. Sides of the neck black; a somewhat ill-defined black-and-white stripe from each side of the occiput to the nape, the bases and margins of the feathers being white. Chin and upper throat black; feathers of the lower throat with their bases white, forming an ill-defined collar. Chest and upper abdomen dark grey; lower abdomen paler, whitish in the middle with a brownish tinge; flank-feathers greyish,

shading into olive-brown near the extremity, with a sub-terminal rufous-buff shaft-spot and a terminal black band; concealed patch of downy feathers under the wing grey. Feathers of the thighs greyish olive, obscurely barred with orange-buff and tipped with black; under tail-coverts with their bases black, their tips greyish olive; mantle, back, and upper tail-coverts golden olive-brown, each feather with three narrow bars of black; tail-feathers above blackish, vermiculated with olive-brown, beneath greyish olive. Primaries brownish black; outer primary-coverts and secondaries black, their outer webs broadly margined with chestnut; remaining wing-coverts greyish olive, their concealed portions black. Tertiaries and scapularies greyish olive, with a broad oblique subterminal bar of black and a terminal one of chestnut. Quill-lining greyish, the inner wing-coverts whitish, grey at the base, the outer series sooty black; axillaries greyish white. Iris brown; bill black; gular and orbital skin brick-red; tarsi and claws bright sealing-wax red. Total length 216 mm., wing 143, tail 61, tarsus 43, culmen 21.

*Adult female.* Similar to the male. Total length 223 mm., wing 137, tail 61, tarsus 41, culmen 19.

*Habitat.* Telôm Valley (3500'–4500'), borders of Perak and Pahang, Malay Peninsula.

Since the publication of the twenty-second volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' in 1893 several new species of Tree-Partridge have been described, and Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant has kindly supplied me with the following amended key to the known species of *Arboricola* including *Tropicoperdix*:—

- A. Concealed patch of downy feathers under the wing grey. (ARBORICOLA.)
  - a. Feathers of the sides and flanks grey or grey edged with chestnut, usually with a white spot or shaft-stripe on each.
  - a'. Upper back olive-brown, barred and fringed with black.
  - a''. Top of the head bright chestnut; chin and throat black, in some specimens each feather narrowly margined with white ..... *torqueola*, ♂.

- b''*. Top of the head brownish or olive-brown, each feather tipped with black.
- a'''*. Chin, throat, and front of neck rufous, the two latter spotted all over with black, or sometimes on the sides only . . . . . *torqueola*, ♀.
- b'''*. Chin and throat black; front of neck black, each feather edged with white . . . . . *atrigrularis*, ♂ ♀.
- c'''*. Chin and throat black; front of neck orange-scarlet . . . . . *ardens*, ♂ ♀.
- d'''*. Chin, upper part of throat, and front of neck white; lower part of throat black . . . . . *crudigrularis*, ♂ ♀.
- b'*. Upper back uniform olive-brown, not barred with black; some of the feathers sometimes slightly fringed with black at their extremities.
- c''*. Chest grey; top of the head olive-brown, each feather edged with blackish brown.
- e'''*. Front of the neck bright rufous.
- a<sup>4</sup>*. Chin and throat black . . . . . *intermedia*, ♂ ♀.
- b<sup>4</sup>*. Chin and throat rufous, thickly spotted with black . . . . . *rufogrularis*, ♂ ♀.
- f'''*. Front of neck black, separated from the breast by a narrower white and a wider dark chestnut band.
- c<sup>4</sup>*. Forehead dark, like the crown . . . . . *gingica*.
- d<sup>4</sup>*. Forehead white . . . . . *ricketti*, ♂ ♀.
- d''*. Chest and top of head chestnut; chin and throat bright rufous; front of neck white, divided from the chest by a narrow black band . . . . . *mandellii*, ♂ ♀.
- b*. Feathers of the sides and flanks grey, shading into olive-brown near the extremity, with a subterminal rufous-buff spot and a black terminal band . . . . . *campbelli*, ♂ ♀.
- c*. Feathers of the sides and flanks uniform chestnut . . . . . *javanica*, ♂ ♀.
- d*. Feathers of the sides and flanks black with narrow wide-set white bars . . . . . *rubrirostris*, ♂ ♀.
- e*. Feathers of the sides and flanks each with a large subterminal white spot partially or wholly bordered with black.

- c'*. Chest brownish red, brownish ochre, or olive-brown; scapulars chestnut at the extremity.
- e''*. Wide superciliary stripe pale buff, extending down the sides of the neck. . . . . *brunneipectus*, ♂ ♀.
- f''*. Superciliary stripe absent . . . . . *henrici*, ♂ ♀.
- d'*. Chest bright rust-red or reddish chestnut; scapulars olive-brown at the extremity.
- g''*. Superciliary stripe grey . . . . . *hyperythra*.
- h''*. Superciliary stripe rust-red. . . . . *erythrophrys*, ♂ ♀.
- f*. Feathers of the sides and flanks greyish, widely barred with white and black at the extremity.
- e'*. Feathers of the back dark earthy-brown faintly margined with blackish . . . . . *orientalis*.
- f'*. Feathers of the back golden-brown fringed and barred with black . . . . . *sumatrana*.
- B.** Concealed patch of downy feathers under the wing snow-white. (TROPICOPERDIX.)
- g*. Sides and flanks marked and mottled with black and buff; chest olive-brown with wavy bars of black . . . . . *chloropus*, ♂ ♀.
- h*. Sides and flanks barred with black and buff; upper half of chest chestnut . . . . . *charltoni*, ♂ ♀.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant has also furnished me with the following remarks upon two of the recently discovered species:—

(1) *ARBORICOLA RICKETTI*.

*Arboricola ricketti* Grant, Bull. B. O. C. viii. p. xlviij (1899).

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. C. B. Rickett, there is now a series of this fine species in the National Collection. All of the examples have the white forehead and superciliary stripe well developed, and in this respect differ from the nearly allied *A. gingica* Temm., the type of which is preserved in the Leyden Museum.

*Hab.* Foh-kien, China.

(2) *ARBORICOLA HENRICI*.

*Arboricola henrici* Oustalet, Bull. Mus. Paris, ii. p. 317 (1896); id. Arch. Mus. Paris, (4) i. pl. ix. (1899).

This species appears to be closely allied to *A. brunneipectus*

Tick. In describing the type *M. Oustalet* compares it with *A. torqueola*, but it evidently belongs to quite a different section of the genus, having the feathers of the sides and flanks ornamented with a large subterminal white spot and terminal black band, as in *A. brunneipectus*. From the latter species it appears to differ only in having the forehead chestnut instead of whitish buff and in lacking the pale buff superciliary stripes. In the description the wings are said to resemble those of *A. torqueola*, but the figure (*op. cit.*) represents the wing-coverts as being pale blue tipped with chestnut and with a subterminal black spot. If the figure correctly represents the colouring of this bird's wing, it is unlike that of any other member of the genus.

*Hab.* Tonkin and Anam.

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XVII.—On *Myiopatris semifusca*, a small Neotropical Tyrant-bird, harmful to Tree-culture as a Disseminator of the parasitic *Loranthaceæ*. By Prof. Dr. EMIL A. GOELDI, H.M.B.O.U., C.M.Z.S., Director of the Pará Museum.

OUR acquaintance with the Neotropical Avifauna does not up to the present go far beyond catalogues and descriptions of bird-skins, and, as to its most important features, still remains unquestionably in the "cabinet phase." It is well to remember that the systematic naming and diagnosis of a species is merely the threshold at the entrance to the essential knowledge of its life-sphere—a small fraction only of the sum total of the natural history of the species. The truth of this assertion especially impresses him who calls to mind the family of the Tyrants, which plays so prominent a rôle in the physiognomy of the South-American Avifauna—a family to the complexity and richness of which I have already more than once alluded in previous publications. These facts have been, moreover, frequently pointed out by nearly all special investigators of South-American ornithology. What light has been thrown upon the life-history of this host of Tyrants (large, middle-sized, and small—